Karnataka Projects Pending for Approval

2128. SHRI K. REHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) What are the various projects in Karnataka pending before the Central Government till 31st October, 1995 for approval;

(b) What action has been taken by Government to clear the projects and what is the status of each of the projects as on 31st October, 1995; and

(c) how many projects are pending for more than one year and the reasons for keeping approval pending, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA): (a) No projects for the State of Karnataka is pending approval in the Planning Commission.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Border Trade with Myanmar and Bangladesh

2129. SHRI JOYANTA ROY:
DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATILA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some recommendations have been made for opening of border trade with Myanmar and Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Institutre of Foreign Trade has formed a strategy to promote border trade with Myanmar;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether opening of border trade with Myanmar and Banladesh will be limited to some items in the first phase; and will not encourage torrorism in the region; and

(f) if so, the details thereof with steps to be taken to check the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) In pursuance of the Border Trade Agreement concluded with Myanmar in January, 1994, Border Trade with Myanmar has already been operationalised with effect from 12th April, 1995 from March in Manipur corresponding to Tamu in Myanmar. With Bangladesh, however, no formal arrangements for Border Trade have yet been worked out while awaiting concurrence of Bangalesh Government to India's proposals in this regard.

(c) and (d) IIFT have made a survey of the export opportunities in Myanmar which inter-alia indicates the scope for expansion Border Trade with Myanmar, the potential items of export to Myanmar, etc.

(e)and (f) Trade with Myanmar across the Border may be undertaken in all products as permitted in the Export-Import Policy. In respect of Bangladesh, the Question does not arise at this stage, in view of position given above at (a) & (b). It is expected that operationalisation of Border Trade with Myanmarl would give a fillip to economic development activities in the Border regions and thereby contribute to stability in the region by a reduction in social tensions.

Export of Agricultural Products

2130. SHRI SARDA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the couintries to which agricultural products were being exported;

(b) whether there has been a sharp decline in the export of Agricultural products during the last three years;

(c) if so, the reasons for decline in the exports;